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Received & Inspected

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FCC Mail Room

December 7, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW; Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: Intrastate Prison Phone Rates Matter

Dear Secretary Dortch:

This is a public comment for WC Docket Number 12-375.

First, let me say kudos on your achievement for issuing an order which capped the cost on interstate prison phone rates. Although that action currently does not affect me, many people I've spoke to have expressed the positive result because of those lower rates. For example, how they can now call their friends and family more than once a month.

Unfortunately, while the FCC capped long distance phone rates, that order did not apply to in-state calls, which make up 85% of all calls from prisons and jails. Accordingly, me and my family pay \$3.45 for pre-paid, and \$3.85 for collect, 15-minute in-state phone calls.

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In addition to those exorbitant rates, me and my family are forced to pay ancillary fees to use Global Tel Link. In order to set up an account via cell phone we had to pay a fee of \$5.00 and must pay a fee of \$3.00 every 90 days to keep that account active. More importantly, if we fail to add money to our account every 90 days we are penalized \$5.00, which has been explained to us, is a result of our negligence to properly maintain that account; and in the event we wish to cancel our pre-paid account we are penalized \$5.00 for that action.

Accordingly, it is important the FCC enact permanent reform for interstate and intrastate prison phone rates, including rate caps and the elimination of "commission" payments to corrections agencies. In 2009 the West Virginia Corrections received \$903,735.30 in commissions, and in 2012 those payments were \$931,637.16, as you can see the kickbacks which WV corrections acquired have increased for the sole purpose of allowing Global Tel Link a monopoly over our phone service, which the Sherman Antitrust Act, amended by the Clayton Act was meant to protect against.

Furthermore, my family lives off of a exiguous income and as a result I can only call my children twice a month severely limiting my contact with them, more importantly, those calls time must be split, 15 minutes, between my two children equally. The FCC previously wrote concerning long distance phone rates that "delay of implementation of the reforms adopted in the Order will perpetuate the significant harms that third parties are currently subject to in the form of unjust, unreasonable and unfair Inmate Calling Services rates and the

Various secondary harms that those excessive rates cause, such as a higher rate of recidivism and emotional harm to prisoners' children." Therefore, that paradigm of regulation should be held for in-state call rates respectfully; and stop the arbitrary and capricious practice's of these Inmate Calling Services against prisoner's, their families, but even more so for their children.

Please consider helping prisoners' and their families solve this intrastate phone rate issue of exorbitant rates and fee's currently affecting 2.7 million children, who, have at least one parent in prison and want nothing more then to maintain a connection with that parent. I respectfully extend my best wishes to you and the entire Federal Communications Commission staff for success, personally and professionally.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Fred D. D. #43219

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